# CV-11 2804

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

	FILEDA		
Courtney Forbes	IN CLERK'S OFFICE U.S. DISTRICT COURT E.D.N.Y Docket No.		
<b>! 4</b>	Plaintiff JUN 10 2011	*	HURLEY,
-against-	^		WALL, M.J
Enhanced Recovery Corporation	LONG ISLAND OFF Defendant	COMPI	LAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL
	X	Unlawful Debt Collection Practices	

adant respectfully alleges

TRIAL BY JURY DEMANDED

Plaintiff, by his attorney Joseph Mauro, complaining of the Defendant respectfully alleges and shows to the Court as follows:

#### I. INTRODUCTION

- 1. The Defendant debt collector violated the Plaintiff's right to privacy in an attempt to collect an alleged consumer debt.
- 2. This is an action for damages brought by an individual consumer for violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. 1692, et seq. (hereinafter "FDCPA") which prohibits debt collectors from engaging in abusive, deceptive and unfair practices.
  - 3. According to 15 U.S.C. 1692:
- (a) There is abundant evidence of the use of abusive, deceptive, and unfair debt collection practices by many debt collectors. Abusive debt collection practices contribute to the number of personal bankruptcies, to marital instability, to the loss of jobs, and to invasions of individual privacy.
- (b) Existing laws and procedures for redressing these injuries are inadequate to protect consumers.
- (c) Means other than misrepresentation or other abusive debt collection practices are available for the effective collection of debts.

- (d) Abusive debt collection practices are carried on to a substantial extent in interstate commerce and through means and instrumentalities of such commerce. Even where abusive debt collection practices are purely intrastate in character, they nevertheless directly affect interstate commerce.
- (e) It is the purpose of this title to eliminate abusive debt collection practices by debt collectors, to insure that those debt collectors who refrain from using abusive debt collection practices are not competitively disadvantaged, and to promote consistent State action to protect consumers against debt collection abuses.

#### **II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

4. Jurisdiction of this Court arises under 15 U.S.C Section 1692k (d), 28 U.S.C Section 1337. Venue in this District is proper in that the Defendant transacts business here and the conduct complained of occurred here.

#### III. PARTIES

- 5. Plaintiff, COURTNEY FORBES, is a natural person residing in SUFFOLK County, New York. Plaintiff is a consumer as defined by the FDCPA.
- 6. Defendant, ENHANCED RECOVERY CORPORATION (hereinafter ENHANCED), is a corporation engaged in the business of collecting debts in this state. The principal purpose of Defendant is the collection of debts using the mails and telephone, and Defendant regularly attempts to collect debts alleged to be due another.
- 7. Defendant is a "debt collector" as defined by the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. Section 1692a(6).

#### IV. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 8. Plaintiff repeats paragraphs "1" through "7" as if fully restated herein.
- 9. Plaintiff incurred a consumer credit card debt ("the debt"). The alleged debt of Plaintiff was incurred for personal, family, or household services, and not for any business purpose. Defendant alleges that Plaintiff owes a debt for
- 10. Unfortunately, and for reasons beyond his control, Plaintiff was unable to repay such debt on time.
- 11. At some point unknown to Plaintiff, Defendant alleges to have acquired the right to attempt to collect such debt. Defendant has not produced, nor has Plaintiff seen any documents indicating that Defendant has the legal right to attempt to collect the alleged debt.
- 12. Throughout 2010, the Defendant repeatedly telephoned the Plaintiff's house and left an artificial computerized message on the answering machine. While the messages were being left on the answering machine, the messages were audible. The Plaintiff's sister in law was living in the Plaintiff's house at the time, and overheard the messages that Defendant left. The artificial voice messages left by the Defendant disclosed that the Plaintiff allegedly owed a debt which the Defendant was attempting to collect.
  - 13. The artificial voice message stated:

Hello. This message is for Courtney C. Forbes. If you are not this person please delete this message if it is not for you. This is Chelsea with Enhanced Recovery Corporation. We are a collections agency attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Please contact me about this business matter at 800-474-9322 and provide the following reference number 278833.

- 14. The Plaintiff never gave the Defendant consent to communicate with any third party in connection with the collection of the debt.
- 15. The Plaintiff did not give Defendant permission to telephone number where Defendant left the messages.

## V. CAUSE OF ACTION UNDER THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT

- 16. Plaintiffs repeats and re-alleges and incorporates by reference to the foregoing paragraphs.
- 17. Defendant's actions as described herein violated 15 U.S.C Section 1692c(b) in that the message disclosed to a person other than the consumer that the Defendant was attempting to collect a debt from Plaintiff. (See *Berg v. Merchs. Ass'n Collection Div.*, 586 F. Supp. 2d 1336 (S.D. Fla. 2008); *Zortman v. J.C. Christensen & Assocs.*, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 44982 (D. Minn. Apr. 26, 2011).

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that judgment be entered against Defendant, for the following:

- 1. Actual damages pursuant to the FDCPA,
- 2. Statutory damages pursuant to the FDCPA;
- 3. Costs and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to the FDCPA;
- 4. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

The Law Office of Joseph Mauro, LLC

Joseph Mauro (JM 8295) 306 McCall Ave. West Islip, NY 11795

#### **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

Please take notice that plaintiffs demand trial by jury in this action.

Attorney for Plaintiff